

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/735,360

Examiner

Amy J. Sterling

Applicant(s)

RIKER, RONALD D.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/2/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 8,9,13-16.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Notice of Allowance

This is the Notice of Allowance for application number 10/735,360 Mailbox Post Bracket, filed on 12/12/03. Claims 8, 9 and 13-16 are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Claims 1-7 and 10-12 are cancelled.

Please change the dependencies as follows:

In claim 8 after "bracket according to claim" and before "wherein", [7] is deleted and 15 has been added.

In claim 9 after "bracket according to claim" and before "wherein", [7] is deleted and 15 has been added.

In claim 13, after "bracket according to claim" and before "wherein" [12] has been deleted and 16 has been added.

In claim 14, after "bracket according to claim" and before "wherein" [12] has been deleted and 16 has been added.

Please add new claims 15 and 16 below:

15. A bracket for securing a mailbox to an upstanding post,

the bracket comprising:

a rectangular plate defining a plane, the plate having an upper surface and a lower surface and a pair of long edges having a length and an end of the length and a pair of short edges, the upper surface of the plate being coextensive with and supporting a lower surface of a mailbox;

at least one flange on a long edge of the plate, the flange extending perpendicular to and downwardly from the lower surface of the plane of the plate;

the at least one flange extending along but less than the length of the long edge of the plate, leaving the end of the length free from the at least one flange

at least one fastener securing the flange to the a mailbox;

a continuous and cylindrical sleeve secured in immediate physical contact to a central portion of the lower surface of the plate and extending downwardly therefrom, the sleeve adapted to receive a cylindrical post; and a sleeve fastener for securing the post within the sleeve;

and wherein the plate is provided with a plurality of arcuate lightening holes.

16. A bracket for securing a mailbox to an upstanding post, the bracket comprising:

a rectangular plate having an upper surface and a lower surface and a pair of long edges and a pair of short edges, the upper surface of the plate being dimensioned to be generally coextensive with and adapted to support a lower surface of the a mailbox;

a plurality of lightening holes formed in the plate;

a flange extending along each long edge of the plate generally perpendicular to and downwardly from the lower surface of the plate, the flange having a length shorter than that of the plate, wherein the plate is free of the flange at each end thereof;

at least one fastener for securing the flanges to corresponding flanges on the mailbox;

a generally cylindrical, one-piece sleeve in immediate physical contact with a central portion of the lower surface of the plate and extending downwardly therefrom, the sleeve adapted to receive a generally cylindrical post; and a sleeve fastener for securing the a post within the sleeve.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Perdue on 10/10/06.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

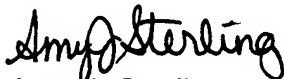
The prior art of record does not teach a rectangular plate defining a plane, the plate having an upper surface and a lower surface and a pair of long edges having a length and an end of the length and a pair of short edges, the upper surface of the plate being coextensive with and supporting a lower surface of a mailbox, at least one flange on a long edge of the plate, the flange extending perpendicular to and downwardly from the lower surface of the plane of the plate, the at least one flange extending along but

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less than the length of the long edge of the plate, leaving the end of the length free from the at least one flange at least one fastener securing the flange to the a mailbox, a continuous and cylindrical sleeve secured in immediate physical contact to a central portion of the lower surface of the plate and extending downwardly therefrom, the sleeve adapted to receive a cylindrical post; and a sleeve fastener for securing the post within the sleeve and wherein the plate is provided with a plurality of arcuate lightening holes.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance." Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Amy J. Sterling at telephone number 571-272-6823. The fax machine number for the -Technology center is 571-273-8300 (formal amendments) or 571-273-6823 (informal amendments/communications). Any inquiry of a general - nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist at 571-272-3600.


Amy J. Sterling
Primary Examiner
10/10/06